

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A process for ex situ oxidizing passivation of a sulfurized hydrocarbon hydroconversion catalyst, ~~in which comprising a step of contacting~~ said sulphurized catalyst ~~undergoes at least two treatments: contact~~ with at least one oxidizing gaseous stream, and ~~contact~~ before or after said step contacting the catalyst with at least one organic liquid with an initial boiling point of more than 120°C which at least partially fills the pores of the catalyst.

Claim 2 (Original) A process according to claim 1, in which in a first step, said sulphurized catalyst is brought into contact with at least one oxidizing gas stream and in a second step, it is brought into contact with said organic liquid.

Claim 3 (Original) A process according to claim 1, in which in a first step, said sulphurized catalyst is brought into contact with said organic liquid and in a second step, it is brought into contact with at least one oxidizing gas stream.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~one of claims 1 to 3, in which~~ claim 1, wherein contact with said gas stream is carried out in two stages, the first in a partial pressure of oxygen of less than 8 kPa, the second in a partial pressure of oxygen that is higher than that of the first stage and at most 21.3 kPa.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 4, ~~in which~~ wherein the second stage of the first step is carried out in air.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein contact with said gas stream is carried out in one or more stages with one or more gas streams all having a partial pressure of oxygen of more than 8 kPa.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 6 ~~in which~~ wherein the stream or streams is/are air.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~one of the preceding claims, in which~~ claim 1, wherein the catalyst is treated while in motion.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 8, ~~in which~~ wherein the catalyst is in a moving bed.

Claim 10 (Original) A process according to claim 9, carried out in a rotary oven, a fluidized bed oven, a band oven, a gravity bed reactor oven or a rising bed device.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~one of the preceding claims, in which~~ claim 1, wherein said organic liquid used in the second step is ~~selected from the group formed by~~ comprises kerosene, gas oil, a vacuum distillates distillate, a lube oil, ~~a waxes and paraffins~~ wax or a paraffin with an initial boiling point of more than 180°C.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~one of the preceding claims, in which~~ claim 1, wherein said organic compound contains at least one heteroatom selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulphur and nitrogen.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 12, ~~in which~~ wherein said organic compound ~~is selected from alcohols, aldehydes, esters,~~

amines, amides, mercaptans, sulphides and sulphones comprises an alcohol, an aldehyde, a ketone, an ester, an amine, an amide, a mercaptan, a sulphide or a sulphone.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 13, ~~in which~~ wherein the organic compound is an ester ~~preferably selected from animal or vegetable oils and partially unsaturated fatty acid triglycerides.~~

Claim 15 (New) A process according to claim 14, wherein said ester comprises animal or vegetable oils or partially unsaturated fatty acid triglycerides.

Claim 16 (New) A process according to claim 1, wherein the catalyst comprises Co and Mo.

Claim 17 (New) A process according to claim 4, wherein the organic compound is an ester.

Claim 18 (New) A process according to claim 6, wherein the organic compound is an ester.

Claim 19 (New) A process according to claim 18, wherein the catalyst comprises Co and Mo.

Claim 20 (New) A process according to claim 19, wherein said ester comprises animal or vegetable oils or partially unsaturated fatty acid triglycerides.